

**Meeting Minutes**  
Weed Beach Building Committee  
December 12, 2007 – 6:00pm  
Room 219, Town Hall  
Special Meeting

**Present:** P. Hovell, S. Swiatek, D. Parnon, C. Darby, M. Wright, M. Hawley, D. Bayne, J. Branigan, J. Enters

**Absent:** J. Howes

**Guests:** D. Halstead, N. Hauck, C. Von Ohlsen, R. Rojas

**Audience:** Adele deLoziaga, Jo Lombardo, Pat Benzenberg, Rose Buch

Hovell opened the meeting at 6:10pm by introducing Denise Halstead, Project Manager, Stearns & Wheler, Neil Hauck, Architect and Craig Von Ohlsen, Landscape Architect/Park Planner.

### **Guard House**

C. Von Ohlsen presented a sketch of the guard house location and the new configuration of the one-way entrance and exit driveways. The location of the guard house, situated inside the park, removes it from blocking the view of the beach but does not impede the emergency exit for the Noroton Bay residents. Separating the entrance and exit driveways and increasing the width of the driveways was also offered as an idea to eliminate the possibility of cars stacked up at the guard house blocking the Brush Island road, allowing cars to leave the park without interfering cars entering the park.

The island encircled by the entrance and exit driveways would provide additional screening between the park entrance and the residential area on Nearwater Lane. Von Ohlsen mentioned that the plan would call for maintenance (pruning) of existing trees and adding more trees and plantings to create a screen.

Wright explained how the property at the end of the beach driveway is used by Noroton Bay kids as a play area and suggested better fencing should be installed considering the close proximity of the exit driveway.

### **Paddle Hut**

N. Hauck presented a sketch for the paddle hut incorporating suggestions made by the committee. Hauck's idea is to bring the building forward thereby allowing increased visibility for the attendant and easier handicap accessibility via the enhancement of a series of existing ramps. The building will be raised to the height of the courts and a deck will be added to the front and side. A propane fire pit was added to a section of the deck. The committee suggested the deck be expanded to connect the courts for easy access, to provide an enlarged viewing deck, to enhance the physical appeal of the area behind the courts that is visible from the warming hut and allow Parks and Rec. easier snow blower access from court to court.

### **Bath House**

Hauck then presented three bath house schemes. In all three the building width was increased to fit the space and pushed back off the beach to reclaim as much beach as possible. The uncovered plaza was kept to define the point of arrival.

The committee considered, discussed all three schemes, ultimately agreeing on Scheme 2 with a few changes.

Concession stand should remain a free standing building attached to the bath house via the open air plaza. There is seating inside the concession stand.

Access to the two family changing rooms should be divided: one accessible from the parking lot and one accessible from the beach with a shower on each of the outside walls of the adjacent changing room.

Darby raised the question about adding shaded areas. Possible solutions would be to add awnings over small gathering areas.

Swiatek suggested adding free standing showers. The committee agreed the addition of several spigots and showers for rinsing off at key access point would be great additions.

A suggestion was made to expand the deck around the concession stand to include the viewing area overlooking the playground and to possibly cover all or part of that deck area.

The WBBC approved the sketches with minor changes. Hovell to present the sketches to the Parks & Rec. Commission at their meeting following the WBBC meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Next meeting January 9, 2008

Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Parnon  
Secretary

*(12/12/07)*